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January 16, 1969

Dr. Philip Sporn
Suite 4201
140 Broadway
New York, New York 10005

Dear Philip:

On January 13 a group of us (Drs. Bloch, Hofstadter, Lederberg, Zaffaroni and myself) met here at Stanford to discuss the problems of the Weizmann Institute and particularly to offer any suggestions that might be helpful to your Search Committee. We are all members of the Board of Governors except Dr. Zaffaroni who visited the Institute recently and whose comments and advice were presented at the Board meeting in December.

On the general question of whether the new president should be a scientist or non-scientist, there was no strong opinion either way. With respect to specific names, the following were suggested:

Michael Feldman is well known to Lederberg, Zaffaroni and myself. We all regard him as a superb scientist whose interest in and capacity to relate to people and problems outside the scientific world are most unusual. His devotion to the Institute and his success as Dean of the Graduate School are, of course, well known to you. There might be some question as to the wisdom of prematurely closing out such an outstanding scientific career, but that is a matter to be balanced against the importance of his contribution as president of the Institute and really is something for the individual himself to decide.

Yuval Ne'eman is well known to Hofstadter and Bloch as a first rank physicist who may very well win the Nobel Prize in the next year or two. He is at present Head of the Department of Physics at Tel Aviv University where, by all accounts, he is doing an outstanding administrative job. He has for a long time been involved in Defense Ministry problems and undoubtedly has had considerable interactions at other government levels.

General Rabin. We all feel that his stature as a military and diplomatic figure would be a tremendous asset, but since none of us knows him or is aware of his academic experience and outlook, these would have to be checked very carefully.

Dr. Philip Sporn

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All of us are eager to be helpful to any extent in assisting your Committee, so please feel free to call on anyone of us.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

Arthur Kornberg

AK:es

cc: Dr. Bloch
Dr. Hofstadter
Dr. Lederberg ✓
Dr. Zaffaroni